

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8249

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 3166

E.O. 11652: NA  
SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING (002)

1. USAID HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED EVALUATION OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING PROJECT; AMENDMENT TO ELT PROJECT PAPER AND REVISED LIFE OF PROJECT BUDGET. TWO COPIES EACH OF ABOVE DOCUMENTS HAND CARRIED TO WASHINGTON BY KURT TEIL, NE/JLS. COPIES OF EVALUATION, PP AMENDMENT AND REVISED BUDGET HAVE BEEN POUCHED.

2. FOR YOUR EARLY ACTION IN SETTING UP REVIEW OF THESE DOCUMENTS, THE MAJOR FINDINGS/RECOMMENDATIONS ARE SUMMARIZED BELOW:

A. EVALUATION:

EVALUATION FOUND THAT PROJECT IS PROGRESSING WELL. INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF, LANGUAGE LABORATORY TRAINING MATERIALS AND BOOKS ARRIVED ON TIME AND ARE IN USE. ORIGINAL PROJECT DESIGN CALLED FOR THREE TERMS OF FOUR CLASSES WITH 16 STUDENTS PER CLASS FOR CAPACITY OF 192 STUDENTS PER YEAR. PROJECT NOW PROVIDES FOR FOUR TERMS OF THREE CLASSES WITH 16 STUDENTS PER CLASS MEETING ON ALTERNATE DAYS. THIS DOUBLES ELTC CAPACITY. ONE OF FOUR ACTION DECISIONS REACHED DURING EVALUATION WAS TO INCORPORATE MINISTRY SUB-CENTERS INTO PROJECT. ANOTHER WAS TO ADD ONE FULL-  
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TIME STAFF MEMBER TO GU CONTRACT TO SERVE AS SUB-CENTER COORDINATOR AND HALF-TIME INSTRUCTOR. ADDITION OF HALF-TIME INSTRUCTOR WILL ENABLE ELTC TO RUN ONE INTENSIVE CLASS ALONG WITH THREE SEMI-INTENSIVE CLASSES THUS FURTHER INCREASING ELTC CAPACITY BY 64 STUDENTS PER YEAR BRINGING OVERALL CAPACITY TO 448 PER YEAR, A FIGURE WHICH MORE THAN DOUBLES ORIGINAL DESIGN.

TWO OTHER ACTIONS DECISIONS PROVIDE FOR SERVICES OF A SHORT-TERM TEST CONSULTANT (TWO TO THREE MONTHS) TO DESIGN NEW PLACEMENT AND PROGRESS MEASURING TEST. THIS WILL ELIMINATE NEED FOR REPEATED USE OF ALIGU TEST FOR INITIAL PLACEMENT AND RESECTIONING OF CLASSES AT END OF EACH ELTC TERM. THIS WILL HELP MAINTAIN INTEGRITY OF ALIGU TEST WHICH IS NOW BEING ADMINISTERED FAR TOO OFTEN IN ABSENCE OF GOOD SUBSTITUTE. OTHER ACTION DECISION CALLS FOR PURCHASE ONE 12/14 PASSENGER VAN TO PROVIDE OFFICIAL TRANSPORTATION FOR GU AND SARG COUNTERPART INSTRUCTORS. NEED FOR TRANSPORTATION WILL EXPAND GREATLY WITH INCORPORATION OF SUB-CENTERS INTO ELTC PROGRAM.

B. PP AMENDMENT:

IN ORDER TO REFLECT ACTION DECISION REACHED DURING EVALUATION, TOTAL AMOUNT RECOMMENDED IN ORIGINAL PP BEING AMENDED FROM \$1,311,900 TO \$2,367,000 WITH YEARLY OBLIGATIONS AS FOLLOWS: FY-76- \$350,000; FY-77 - \$482,000; FY-78 - \$560,000; FY-79 - \$555,000 AND FY-80 - \$420,000. INCREASE RESULTS PRIMARILY FROM INCORPORATION OF SUB-CENTERS INTO GU CONTRACT (WITH RESULTTANT PAYING OF LOCALLY HIRED AMERICAN PSC TEACHERS OUT OF 002 PROJECT RATHER THAN OUT OF 001 PROJECT AS HAS BEEN PRACTICE TO DATE); ADDITION OF ONE FULL-TIME INSTRUCTOR/SUB-CENTER COORDINATOR AND UNCLASSIFIED

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EMPLOYMENT OF ONE SHORT-TERM LANGUAGE TEST CONSULTANT. OTHER AMENDMENTS IN PP REFLECT CHANGES IN PLANNED OUTPUTS (FROM PLANNED 192 PER YEAR TO THEORETICAL MAXIM OF 448 PER YEAR); PLANNED INPUTS (FROM SIX FULL-TIME AND ONE PART-TIME STAFF MEMBER TO SEVEN FULL-TIME AND TWO PART-TIME STAFF MEMBERS); NECESSARY CHANGES IN ASSUMPTIONS AND NECESSARY CHANGES IN LOG. FRAME.

3. USAID WILL DISCUSS WITH MULLEN, GC/NE, WORDING OF CHANGES WHICH MAY BE NECESSARY IN PROJECT AGREEMENT TO OBLIGATE FY-78 AMOUNT OF \$560,000 AND TO INCREASE PROJECT BY ONE FULL-TIME AND ONE PART-TIME STAFF MEMBER. WILL CABLE SUGGESTED CHANGES ASAP.

4. ON APPROVAL PP AMENDMENT AND PROPOSED CHANGES IN PROJECT AGREEMENT, USAID WILL FINALIZE FY-78 PIO/T.

5. COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE APPRECIATED.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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